



# Country Commercial Briefing: Kazakhstan Caspian Finance Seminar

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Business Information Service for the Newly Independent States

U.S. Commercial Service

U.S. Department of Commerce

### **Country Overview**

Total Area: 2.7 million sq km

Capital: Astana; Financial Center: Almaty

**Political Stability** 

**Economic Reform Continuing** 

**Challenging Business Environment** 

Major Industries: oil & gas, metals, food,

chemicals, machinery, power generation

# **Country rating**

	Fitch IBCA	Moody's	Standard & Poor's
1996	BB-	Ba3	BB-
1998	BB	Ba3	B+
1999	BB-	B1	B+
2000	BB-	B2	BB-

#### Best Prospects - Kazakhstan

- O il/Gas equipment and services
- Construction
- Agribusiness/Food Processing
- Telecommunications
- Consumer
- Mining/Construction Equipment)
- M edical Equip. & Pharmaceuticals
- Metallurgical/Metal Working Equipment
- Computers, Peripherals, Business Equip.
- Services

## Kazakhstan's Oil & Gas Sector

• Kazakhstan is the second largest oil producer among the former Soviet Republics after Russia, producing over 800,000 barrels per day.

Proven oil reserves of 16 billion barrels

• 60 billion barrels both onshore and under its portion of the Caspian seabed.

- Energy Partnership Declaration signed by Presidents Bush & Nazarbaev in December 2001
- Continued government attempts to open subsurface use contracts for re-negotiation
- Import substitution policies (each national an foreign company has to pledge procurement of certain items from local suppliers)

#### · Agip KCO (former OKIOC):

- exploration drilling, creation of artificial islands, purchase of additional sets of drilling equipment

#### •KIO (Karachaganak field):

- expected 4 billion USD of investments in 2002-2004 to increase crude oil production from 4.8 million tons (2001) to 10.4 million tons

#### •TCO (Tengiz field)

- "second generation" oil refinery project requiring 2 billion USD of investments

#### Agip KCO

- In 2002, Consortium Agip KCO plans to maintain investments at the same level of \$400 million to \$500 million that it invested in 2001 in drilling in the Kazakh sector of the Caspian shelf.
- The consortium plans to sign contracts worth \$33 million to \$35 million with local Kazakh companies, up from \$17.7 million in 2000.

### Karachaganak Integrated Organization (ÊIO)

- ÊIO has already invested in excess of \$2 billion in the Karachaganak project.
- By mid-2003, when phase 2 of the field evelopment is to be completed, investments will have totaled \$3-5 billion.
- Building the 635-kilometer Tengiz-Big Chagan-Atyrau oil pipeline that will be connected to the Tengiz-Novorossiysk pipeline

#### Tengizchevroil (TCO)

- By 2004--05, TCO plans to raise annual production of oil by 7 million tons per year, bringing total production to 19 million tons per year
- To increase the number of active wells at the Tengiz field from 4S to 90. Production growth is to be boosted by recovery increase at the Korolev field.
- TCO's long-term plans call for raising annual production to 30 million tons by the end of this decade.

- February 2002 was marked by significant changes to the structure of Kazakhstan's national oil companies. The Kazakh national companies Kazakhoil and Transportneftigaz (TNG), have merged into a single closed joint-stock company: KazMunaiGaz (KMG) National Company.
- This was done by Presidential Decree, signed on February 20, 2002.

- On May 13, 2002 the presidents of Kazakhstan and Russia signed a protocol splitting three gas fields in the northern Caspian Sea
- The protocol divides the fields along the sea's floor, giving Russia and Kazakhstan equal shares in the Kurmangazy, Tsentralnoye, and Khvalynskoye fields.

<u>Field</u>	Reserves (mln tn)	Jurisdiction
Khvalynskoye	250	Russia
Central	350	Russia
Kurmangazy	600	Kazakhstan

- Kazakhstan's Oil & Gas transportation system:
  - currently managed by the national company KMG; KMG works to computerize its activities, introduce Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System (SCADA) and Supervisory System of the company's activities (SAPR); reduction of energy and labor intensity of the projects. Total projected investments for 2002-2003 up to 1 billion USD
- Kazakhstan's tanker fleet:
  - Kazmortransflot 50% owned by KMG plans to start carrying out maritime operations in Caspian, Black and Baltic Seas

#### Doing Business in Kazakhstan

- Hiring legal and accounting professionals with "on ground" experience
- Taking into account the extreme price sensitivity of Kazakhstani consumers
- Establishing satellite office in Astana
- Kazakhstan is more European than Asian

#### Strategies for Success in Kazakhstan

- Finding reliable, credit-worthy partner
- Working through a country wide distributor or agent
- Preparing detailed marketing survey before launching a product
- Providing after-sales service
- Brining investments to Kazakhstan

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